

AA-731

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel (Site)  
Shady Side

Access: Public

1883

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel was demolished in 1980. It was a small (20' wide by 26' long) white frame building. The building had been vandalized many times and the presiding A.M.E. bishop (Bishop Murph, Washington, D.C.) gave permission to the last remaining vestryman of the church, Mr. Frank Tounge of Shady Side, to tear it down. The Chapel was built in 1883. The last time I was in the Chapel, it was deteriorated and the home of a large colony of honey bees.

There were originally three African Methodist Episcopal congregations in southern Anne Arundel County: Ebenezer, Galilee and St. Paul's. Ebenezer was founded in Galesville in 1870 and is the only remaining A.M.E. congregation in the area. Galilee was situated on Wayson Road and ceased to exist in the early 1900's. St. Paul's, founded by the McKail Family in Shady Side, functioned as a congregation from 1878 until 1976. In it's last years, the congregation had only eight members, and they moved to Ebenezer Church.

## INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel

AND/OR COMMON

**2 LOCATION**

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shady Side Road

CITY, TOWN

Shady Side

— VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

Fourth

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Anne Arundel**3 CLASSIFICATION**

## CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT☒ BUILDING(S)☐ STRUCTURE☒ SITE☐ OBJECT

## OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC☒ PRIVATE☐ BOTH

## PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS☐ BEING CONSIDERED

## STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED☒ UNOCCUPIED☐ WORK IN PROGRESS

## ACCESSIBLE

☒ YES: RESTRICTED☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED☐ NO

## PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE☐ MUSEUM☐ COMMERCIAL☐ PARK☐ EDUCATIONAL☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE☐ ENTERTAINMENT☐ RELIGIOUS☐ GOVERNMENT☐ SCIENTIFIC☐ INDUSTRIAL☐ TRANSPORTATION☐ MILITARY☒ OTHER**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Mr. Frank Tongue (Vestryman)Telephone #: 867-2932

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Shady Side Road

CITY, TOWN

Shady Side

— VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

Maryland 20867**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,

REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Anne ArundelLiber #: SH 31Folio #: 461

STREET &amp; NUMBER

Church Circle

CITY, TOWN

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

N/A

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCALDEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

AA-731

**7 DESCRIPTION**

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		DATE 1883

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel is a small (20' wide by 26' long) white frame building. The clapboard covers 3/4" vertical siding (oak). The vertical siding is exposed on the East side of the building. At one time the vertical siding must have served as the exterior walls because the wood is painted blue in certain places. The doorway is situated in the center of the south gabled end of the building. The Chapel rests on four (4) brick piers. The cornerstone is on the left corner of the building (South) and reads: "St. Paul's AME Chapel 1883". The roof has a double covering of asbestos shingles on the left side and wooden shake shingles on the right.

The interior has been badly damaged by fire. There is wainscoting around all four (4) walls. The chapel was plastered but a lot of plaster has fallen exposing the lathe and chinking. The sanctuary is small 7 1/4' wide and 4 1/2' deep alcove on the north end of the building. There are three (3) four (4') foot windows on the East side and three (3) four (4') windows on the West side of the Chapel. These windows are oblong and the glass is missing from the frames.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE**

PERIOD	AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES	BUILDER/ARCHITECT
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**STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

There were originally three African Methodist Episcopal congregations in southern Anne Arundel County: Ebenezer, Galilee and St. Paul's. Ebenezer was founded in Galesville in 1870 and is the only remaining AME congregation in the area. Galilee was situated on Wayson Road and ceased to exist in the early 1900's. St. Paul's founded by the McKail family in Shady Side, functioned as a congregation from 1878 until 1976. In its last years the congregation had only eight members and they moved to Ebenezer Church. The cemetery at St. Paul's is maintained but the presiding AME Bishop (Bishop Murph-Washington D.C.) has given permission to the Vestrymen to tear the Chapel down.

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel is the oldest AME structure in southern Anne Arundel county. It was built by ex-slaves and freemen less than twenty years after the Civil War. It was a Church built by blacks for a black dominated religion. Most black Methodists belonged and still belong to the Methodist Episcopal or Methodist Protestant Churches (now both United Methodist) in this region. St. Paul's remains, even in its deteriorated condition, a symbol of the freedman's struggle to build his own institutions and to worship in a religion where he was an equal among peers.

**9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES**

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA**

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

**11 FORM PREPARED BY**

NAME / TITLE

James W. Clark, Historic Sites Surveyor

ORGANIZATION

Commission on Afro-American History &amp; Culture

11/20/78

STREET &amp; NUMBER

20 Dean Street

TELEPHONE

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN / STATE

Annapolis

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust  
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438

AA-731

ST. PAUL'S AME CHAPEL  
DEALE QUAD.





St. Paul's A.M.E.

Shady Side, Anne Arundel

AA-731

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel  
Shady Side, Anne Arundel County, MD  
Michael Hosford

AA-731

Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD  
Southwest elevation  
11/78





AA-731

St. Paul's A.M.E. Chapel  
Shady Side, Anne Arundel County, MD  
Michael Hosford

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Maryland Historical Trust, Annapolis, MD  
Detail - East elevation  
11/78